

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A portable computer, comprising:
2 a housing having a battery bay; and
3 a battery module adapted to removeably fit into the battery bay, wherein the battery
4 module comprises at least one battery cell adapted to provide power and at
5 least one storage compartment located adjacent the battery cell.

- 1 2. The portable computer as recited in claim 1, wherein the battery module
2 comprises three separate batteries.

- 1 3. The portable computer as recited in claim 2, wherein the three battery cells are
2 electrically coupled to an electrical contact, wherein the electrical contact is adapted to
3 connect to an ancillary electronic device.

- 1 4. The portable computer as recited in claim 2, wherein the storage compartment
2 is formed as a recess in the battery module.

- 1 5. The portable computer as recited in claim 4, wherein the storage compartment
2 has a rectangular shape.

- 1 6. The portable computer as recited in claim 5, wherein the storage compartment
2 is sized to hold a plurality of business cards.

1 7. The portable computer as recited in claim 1, wherein the battery module
2 comprises a cover adapted to provide access to the storage compartment.

1 8. A method, comprising the acts of:
2 providing a portable computer with a battery bay;
3 providing a battery module having a battery and a storage compartment; and
4 inserting the battery module into the battery bay.

1 9. The method as recited in claim 8, comprising the act of interchanging the
2 battery module with a second battery module having additional battery cells in lieu of the
3 storage compartment.

1 10. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the battery comprises three battery
2 cells located adjacent the storage compartment.

1 11. The method as recited in claim 9, wherein the act of interchanging comprises
2 the act of interchanging the battery module with the second battery module having at least six
3 cells.

1 12. The method as recited in claim 12, comprising the act of enclosing the storage
2 compartment with a pivotable cover operable between open and closed positions.

1 13. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the battery bay is located in a
2 bottom region of the portable computer.

1 14. An electronic device, comprising:
2 a housing;
3 a battery bay formed in the housing;
4 a module removeably coupled to the battery bay, the module comprising a battery cell
5 and a storage compartment adjacent the battery cell.

1 15. The device as recited in claim 14, wherein the battery is configured to accept
2 at least three battery cells.

1 16. The device as recited in claim 14, wherein the storage compartment comprises
2 a cover to selectively enclose the storage compartment.

1 17. The device as recited in claim 16, wherein the cover is pivotable between an
2 opened position and a closed position.

1 18. The device as recited in claim 14, wherein the storage compartment is sized to
2 hold a plurality of business cards.